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amnesty international

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR

EAST TIMOR: FURTHER RELEASES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

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Twenty political prisoners were released in Dili, East Timor, on 5 October 1987 after having served all but a few months of their sentences. Two other East Timorese prisoners were recently released from prison in Jakarta after completing their sentences. A list of the released prisoners appears below. All had been tried in Dili District Court after trials that Amnesty International believes may not have been fair. The 20 prisoners are the second group of political prisoners in Dili to be released in recent months; 24 men were released in August (see ASA 21/23/87 "East Timor: Releases of Political Prisoners".)

Since the Indonesian authorities first began in 1983 to bring to trial East Timorese prisoners detained for suspected support of the Frente Revolucionaria de Timor-Leste Independente (FRETILIN), Amnesty International has questioned whether defendants have had adequate access to counsel, the right to counsel of their choice and adequate time and facilities for preparing their defence. It has also questioned whether the defendants have adequately understood the legal procedures in question, since only one of the accused out of more than 230 tried thus far has either pleaded not guilty to prosecution charges or made an appeal against the verdict of the court.

Amnesty International has urged the Indonesian Government to permit international observers to attend the trials, but the Government has stated that the trials are a matter of domestic jurisdiction and that outside interference in internal affairs will not be tolerated.

East Timorese Political Prisoners Released in Dili on 5 October 1987

1 Name: Luis Dias Soares
Age: 41 years
Occupation: Carpenter
Place of Origin: Kamea Village, Dili
Trial Date: December 1985
Sentence: 2 years

2 Name: Francisco Mendes
Age: 31 years
Occupation: Civil Servant
Place of Origin: Rotutu, Same
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

3 Name: Luis De Yesus
Age: 35 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Bukoli, Baucau
Trial Date: January 1985
Sentence: 3 years

4 Name: Abel Da Silva
Age: 40 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Bukoli, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

5 Name: Pedro da Costa
Age: 32 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Bukoli, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

6 Name: Ernesto Gomes
Age: 52 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Bukoli, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

7 Name: Gregorio Almaida
Age: 29 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Watulari, Viqueque
Trial Date: July 1985
Sentence: 2 years

8 Name: Justino Da Costa Ribeiro
Age: 57 years
Occupation: Retired
Place of Origin: Malere Village, Aileu
Trial Date: January 1987
Sentence: 1 year

9 Name: Calestro Cortereal
Age: 29 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Holarua Village, Same
Trial Date: January 1987
Sentence: 1 year

10 Name: Felix Da Costa
Age: 24 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Triloka, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

11 Name: Alberto Da Silva
Age: 39 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Bukoli, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

12 Name: Joao Ormai Jeronimo
Age: 28 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Iliomar, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

13 Name: Rafael Xavier
Age: 31 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Gariwai, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1985
Sentence: 3 years

14 Name: Alberto Da Conseicao
Age: 54 years
Occupation: Religious Instructor
Place of Origin: Lospalos, Lautem
Trial Date: August 1985
Sentence: 2 years 8 months

15 Name: Alexandre Gomes
Age: 37 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Babuarkai, Ermera (also reported as Santa Cruz, Mota Ulun)
Trial Date: March 1985
Sentence: 3 years

16 Name: Manuel Gusmao Gayao
Age: 39 years
Occupation: Secretary, village administration
Place of Origin: Abafala Village, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1986
Sentence: 2 years

17 Name: Carlito
Age: 19 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Atelari, Baucau
Trial Date: February 1986
Sentence: 2 years
Other: Reported to have been tortured for two weeks at the district military court (KODIM) in Baucau

18 Name: Manuel Araujo
Age: 30 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Monomoge, Ainaro
Trial Date: October 1986
Sentence: 1 yr 4 mths

19 Name: Mario Soares
X Age: 28 years
Occupation: Carpenter
Place of Origin: Karaubalo, Viqueque
Trial Date: October 1986
Sentence: 1 yr 6 mths -6

20 Name: Agusto Ataidi
X Age: 41 years
Occupation: Peasant
Place of Origin: Manleuana, Dili
Trial Date: July 1985
Sentence: 3 years -9 emo LISBUTAK (DILI) MARÇO 85 2 1/2 +1

East Timorese Prisoners Released From Cipinang Prison, Jakarta

1 Name: Martinho Perreira Rodrigues
Place of Origin: Bidao, Santana
Trial Date: May 1984
Sentence: 4 years -11
Date of Release: 30 June 1987

2 Name: Mariano Da Costa Soares
Place of Origin: Viqueque
Trial Date: October 1984
Sentence: 3 yrs 10 mths -12
Date of Release: 17 August 1987

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